Drug trafficking and mafia nexus in Goa

3152. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Goa has become heaven for drugs and major market for narcotic dealers;

(b) whether 90 per cent of drug traffickers operate in Goa only;

(c) how many drug traffickers were arrested in Goa during the lasy three years; and

(d) what action Government has taken to break the drug trafficking and mafia nexus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) Reports received and seizures of various kinds of drugs in Goa as reported by different drug law enforcement agencies indicate that Goa is vulnerable to drug trafficking and drug abuse. However, these do not suggest that Goa has become heaven for drugs and major market for narcotic dealers.

(c) Number of persons arrested in connection with drug trafficking in Goa during the last three years, as reported by various drug law enforcement agencies, including NCB, are as under:

Year	No. of persons arrested
2005	35
2006	30
2007(provisional)	25

(d) The Government has taken a number of steps to check, detect and prevent illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs such as, *inter alia,* improved coordination between the various drug law enforcement agencies, increased international cooperation, training programmes for law enforcement officials, a scheme of rewards for information leading to seizures, a specialized Anti-Narcotic Cell in Goa, strengthening the anti-narcotic efforts in Goa by additional financial assistance.

Naxalite's campaign against SEZs

3153. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that naxalites have started a campaign against Special Economic Zones; and

(b) what steps has been taken to fight this economic attack by naxalites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL) : (a) and (b) In addition to indulging in crime and violence, naxalite activity also manifests itself through various front organizations on issues such as Special Economic Zones, etc.

Maintenance of law and order lies primarily in the domain of the concerned State Governments. The Central Government also closely monitors the situation and provides assistance by various means to the concerned State Governments.

The approach is to ensure better governance and effective delivery of socio-economic development programmes, together with focused and coordinated action to ensure a secure environment.

Special attention is being given on planning, implementation and monitoring of development schemes. Under the Backward Districts Initiative, which covered 147 districts, an amount of Rs. 45 crore per district had been allocated on a non-lapsable basis. This has now been replaced by the Backward Regions Grant Fund, in 250 districts. National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme, which was originally being implemented in 200 districts, and was extended to 330 districts in April, 2007, is now being extended to all districts in the country, having regard to the need to universalise this demand-driven programme for wage-employment. These schemes are in addition to various income-generating, public-utility and social-security schemes of different Ministries like Rural Development, Agriculture, Health and Family Welfare, Youth Affairs and Sports, Panchayati Raj and Tribal Affairs.

An Inter Ministerial Group under Additional secretary (Naxal Management) in the Ministry of Home Affairs oversees effective implementation of development schemes in naxalite affected areas for accelerated socio-economic development.

Labourers killed in Manipur

3154. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA A. HEPTULLA:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Manipur is becoming a lawless region with militants threatening doctors and teachers, killing Government officials and Hindi-speaking people and extorting money from even temples;

(b) if so, how many incidences have come to the notice of Government during the last one year;

(c) how many labourers/Hindi speaking people have been killed so far in Manipur; and

(d) what action Government has taken against extortionists in the disturbed areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware that several militant outfits have been indulging in violence, intimidation, extortion, etc. in the State. According to available information, there were 584 incidents of violence including killings, abduction, etc. during the year 2007.

(c) According to information provided by the State Government, 16 non-locals were killed in separate attacks in East Imphal, West Imphal and Thoubal Districts on 17-18 March, 2008.

(d) The Government of Manipur has been taking sustained action to contain the activities of the militant groups. A Combined Headquarters has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister, with representatives of the State Government, Army and the Central Security Forces/agencies, to periodically review the situation, work out strategies, and co-ordinate Counter Insurgency Operations. The Central Government has been supplementing the efforts of the State Government in various ways such as, deployment of central security forces to aid the State Police; providing sucurity to vulnerable installations and projects etc.